GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2437
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
STATE FARMS CORPORATION OF INDIA
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu);Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the priorities of State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) whether the SFCI has examined the various reports of International/National agencies in regard to impact of climate change on farm sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the strategy chalked out by the SFCI to save the farm sector from the impact of climate change;

(e) whether a conference on impact of climate change in agriculture was organized by Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) foundation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The priorities of State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) are to produce breeder and foundation seeds of cereals, pulses and oilseeds; certified seed production for State Seeds Corporations and other agencies; production of "Test Stock Seed" in respect of identified "pre-released varieties" and production and distribution of planting materials of outstanding horticultural plantation crops.

(b)&(c): SFCI has examined the reports of National agencies (Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes) about impact of climate change on farm sector and their recommendations have been adopted and action taken to the extent feasible. Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes have given recommendations for mitigating the effect of frost and reduced water availability to the Rabi crops.

(d): As per the recommendation of Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes, to mitigate the effect of frost and reduced water availability, application of Thio urea @ 350 grams in 700 liters water per hectare in pulses and @ 700 grams in 700 liters water per hectare in wheat and barley has been adopted. Sprays have been done twice at interval of 20 days. In rainfed areas, water conservation techniques like deep ploughing, impounding of flood/rain water have been adopted. In respect of horticulture nursery, green houses/poly houses have been constructed.

(e)&(f): IFFCO Foundation in association with Ministry of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and IFFCO organized an International Conference on "Science-based Agricultural Transformation towards Alleviations of Hunger and Poverty in SAARC Countries" during 5 − 7 March, 2008 at New Delhi.One of theme areas of the Conference was "Climate Change, Risk Management and Bio-security".The impact of ongoing climate change on productivity and increased uncertainty of production in farm sector were discussed in the conference.